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JURORS NAMED IN SMOKE CASE

Cigarettes Held Death Cause by Widow

Twelve jurors were selected Monday in federal court for the trial of a suit in which it is alleged that the plaintiff's death from lung cancer was caused by his cigaret smoking.

The whole day was taken up with the selection of the 12 jurors. The first venire of 35 persons was exhausted and an additional venire had to be called to complete the selection.

Two alternate jurors will be selected Tuesday when court opens at 10 a. m., and then attorneys in the case will make their opening statements to the jury. The alternate jurors will participate in the case only in the event regular members of the jury are unable to complete a hearing of the trial.

The suit has been brought by Mrs. Victoria St. Pierre Lartigue, formerly a resident of Franklin, now of Houston, Tex., She claims that her husband, Frank J. Lartigue, began smoking in 1899 and smoked two packages of cigarettes a day until shortly before his death on July 13, 1955.

EXPERTS TO TESTIFY

Mrs. Lartigue is represented by H. Alva Brumfield of Baton Rouge and Melvin M. Belli of San Francisco in her suit against the Liggett and Meyers Tobacco Company and the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company.

The companies are represented by the New Orleans law firms of Chaffe, McCall, Phillips, Burke and Hopkins, representing R. J. Reynolds, and Lemle and Kelleher for Liggett and Meyers. New York firms associated in the case are Davis, Polk, Sunderland and Kindle for R. J. Reynolds, and Webster, Sheffield and Chrystie for Liggett and Meyer.

Attorneys have submitted to the court lists of about 50 experts in medical and research fields who may be called during the case which is expected to take about two weeks to try.

Among those who will testify are Dr. Alton Ochsner of New Orleans and a number of other local physicians and surgeons as well as a number of other local physicians and surgeons as well as a number from various parts of the country and from as far away as Canada and Australia.

SEEKS $779,500

Mrs. Lartigue is seeking damages of $779,500 for her husband' band's death, charging negligence on the part of the cigarette manufacturers as well as breaches of express and implied warranty.

The 12 jurors selected Monday include seven smokers and five non-smokers.

Those on the jury include Mrs. Owen G. Quebedo, Mrs. Florence J. Steiner, Jules L. Lambert Sr., Harold Theriot, Mrs. Yvonne Posner, Neonard J. Jarreau, Louis J. Gamas, Mrs. Helen M. Jeffries, Joseph J. Armbruster, Joseph J. Olivier Jr., Mrs. Rose Barber and Mrs. Beverly O. Cannaday.

Many prospective jurors were excused by Judge Herbert W. Christenberry when they said that they had definite opinions as to whether cigarette smoking was related to cancer.

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